R2RW

Great River Watershed Stakeholder Workshop Report



Ridge to Reef Watershed Project

USAID Contract No. 532-C-00-98-00777-00

GREAT RIVER WATERSHED STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP REPORT

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Prepared for the:

Government of Jamaica's National Environment and Planning Agency

And the

United States Agency for International Development

Implemented by:

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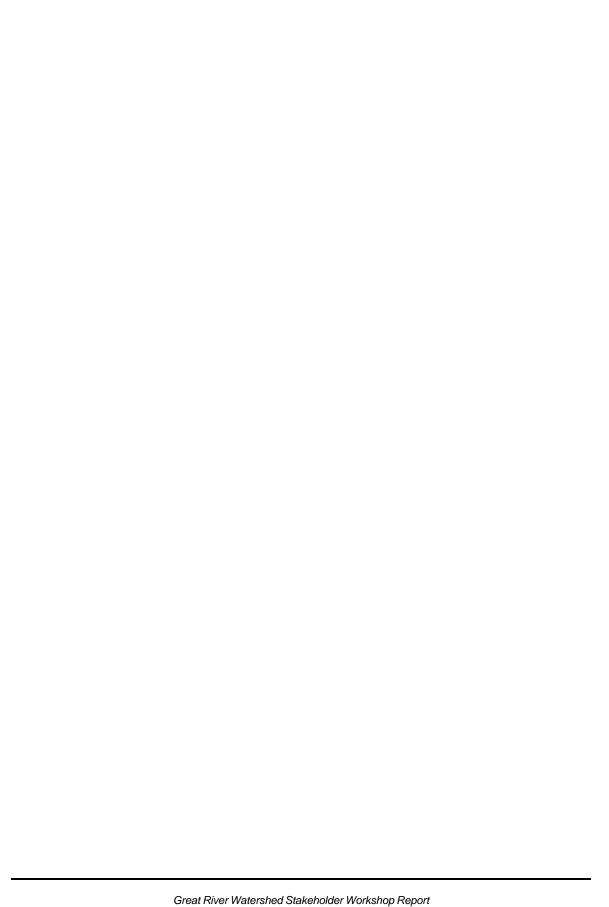


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PREFACE

The Ridge to Reef Watershed Project (R2RW) is a five year (with an optional sixth year) activity contributing to the achievement of USAID/Jamaica's SO2 – "improved quality of key natural resources in areas that are both environmentally and economically significant." R2RW comprises three Contract Results or Components contributing to results under SO2. Component 1 will assist targeted organizations to identify and promote sustainable environmental management practices by resource users. Component 2 focuses on identifying and supporting solutions to improve enforcement of targeted existing environmental regulations, primarily in the Great River and Rio Grande Watersheds. Component 3 provides assistance to key organizations to support, coordinate, and expand watershed management efforts in Jamaica. The Ridge to Reef Watershed project is being implemented by ARD, Inc with assistance from Cargill Technical Services, Inc.

The **Great River Watershed Stakeholder Workshop** represented urban and rural communities, private sector interests, and public sector agencies covering the Great River Watershed area. The planning process utilized Advanced Participation Methods developed by Associates in Rural Development, Inc. Mr. Gary Forbes, an international expert in Advanced Participation Methods, facilitated the two-day process. This Report provides a chronology of activities that resulted in the identification of nine strategic directions with illustrative examples of corresponding action plans to improve environmental management.

ACRONYMS

ARD Associates in Rural Development, Inc.
CBO Community-Based Organization
CGA Central Government Agencies

CR Contract Result

GOJ Government of Jamaica

JAS Jamaica Agriculture Society

JHTA Jamaica Hotel and Tourism Association

LMC Local Management Committee

MOH Ministry of Health MOW Ministry of Works

NDFJ National Development Foundation of Jamaica NEEC National Environmental Education Committee NEPA National Environment and Planning Agency

NGO Non-governmental Organization

NHT National Housing Trust

NRCA Natural Resources Conservation Authority

NWC National Water Commission

PC Parish Council

PDC Parish Development Committee

PS Private Sector

R2RW Ridge to Reef Watershed Project

RADA Rural Agriculture Development Authority
SAPW Strategic Action Planning Workshop
SDC Social Development Commission

SO2 Strategic Objective 2

TPDCo Tourism Product Development Company

USAID United States Agency for International Development

VIDPL Ventilated Improved Double-pit Latrine

INTRODUCTION

Over fifty people, representing government agencies, private sector, communities and civil society participated in a two-day highly participatory Strategic Action Planning Workshop (SAPW) held at the Knockalva Agricultural School at Ramble in Hanover on June 5-6, 2001. The objective of the SAPW was to identify the environmental challenges and corresponding opportunities for programming interventions. The SAPW was designed not just to identify problems, but to formulate realistic priority environmental action plans. This *Great River Watershed Stakeholder Report* summarizes the participatory methodologies utilized in conducting the planning exercises and the subsequent findings emerging from the two-day activity. Of special importance are the nine environmental strategic directions identified:

- Introduce technologies and practices to reduce watershed degradation
- Improve sanitation and waste management practices
- Promote organic practices
- Initiate community tourism development projects and activities
- Expand sustainable agro-forestry practices
- Enhance public awareness of environmental and watershed management practices
- Establish partnership for the sustainable development of the Great River Watershed
- Improve collaborative water resources management
- Organize marketing strategies for Great River Watershed products

In addition to identifying the nine environmental strategic directions, the workshop established illustrative priority actions, key activities, and stakeholder roles and responsibilities for each. The nine environmental strategic directions were then analyzed and compared to the R2RW technical mandate to identify shared programming opportunities.

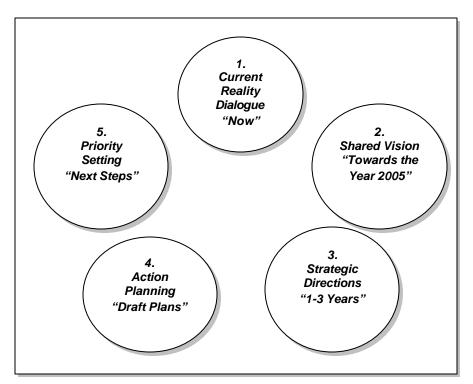
The *Great River Watershed Stakeholder Workshop Report* will serve as an important road map for the design and implementation of collaborative environmental programming initiatives between the communities of the Great River Watershed and R2RW. The Report reflects the hard work, commitment, and vision of the workshop participants to a healthy, green and sustainable environment for the Great River Watershed.

GREAT RIVER WATERSHED STRATEGIC ACTION PLANNING WORKSHOP PROCESS

The formal opening of the Great River Watershed Stakeholder Workshop began with a welcome by Chairperson Mr. Trevor Spence of the Ridge to Reef Watershed Project (R2RW). Next came greetings by Mrs. Winsome Townsend from the National Environment and Planning Agency (NEPA), and Ms. Sasha Parke of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). Mr. Mark Nolan, Chief of Party gave and overview of the R2RW to participants providing details on each of the Project Components and cross-cutting themes. Mr. Gary Forbes, Principal Facilitator from Associates in Rural Development's (ARD) R2RW Team, proceeded to orient the participants and guests to the environmental planning process.

Mr. Forbes outlined the program of activities that were scheduled for the two days. Combining various participatory exercises, participants would engage each other in a dialogue on the current realities in the Great River Watershed, craft a practical vision for the Great River Watershed for the year 2010, and together paint a picture of the qualitative aspects of community life in the Great River Watershed communities and define ways by which this can be enhanced. Proceeding from the outputs generated on the first day, the participants on the second day would continue with identifying strategies that would lead to the realization of the vision, and the various priority actions that would operationalize these strategies. The flow of these activities was illustrated in the following diagram.

R2RW PROJECT PLANNING PROCESS



The five-step process of the Great River Watershed Stakeholder Workshop

Mr. Forbes then proceeded to explain the approach that was to be adopted for the workshop. These have been captured in the diagram below.

	APPROACH				
ACTION ORIENTED	Participants provide the information, draft the plan, and identify priorities				
PROJECT PLANNING	Focus is on strategic issues, not 'wish lists'				
MULTIPLE STAKEHOLDERS	Partnership and collaboration among multi- sectoral representatives and their groups is emphasized.				
WORKSHOP FORMAT – Results Documented	The two-day discussion produces tangible results. Inputs will be put together and will be provided as a working document.				
INTER-ACTIVE AND FAST PACED	Participants get a chance to work with everyonelse in the group. Move quickly and do not sto by voting, arguing and defending, or protracted discussions.				
CONSENSUS BUILDING					

The elements of the approach used in the Great River Watershed Stakeholder Workshop

Mr. Forbes explained the underlying values that would inform the manner by which the workshop would be facilitated. He expressed the need to share these values with the participants in order that they could feel confident about the process that they would be going through in the next two days, thus, enabling the full and meaningful participation of everyone present. These functional values have been presented in the diagram below.

WORKSHOP VALUES					
Gaining dynamism from the diversity of the participants' expertise and experience.	PARTICIPATION				
Using small and large groups for planning.	TEAMWORK				
Sharing ideas, listening to others' perspectives to ensure higher quality output	DIALOGUE				
Building on common ground and weaving together shared insights and focused direction.	CONS ENSUS				
Leading to the future, the plans must have practical and tangible results.	ACTION				

The values that inform the process of facilitating the workshop

SESSION ONE: **CURRENT REALITY DIALOGUE**

The Current Reality Dialogue provided the opportunity for participants to share insights on the overall development situation in their community. Five working teams put together a profile of the current reality of the Great River Watershed area. This included the following: the major trends that will greatly influence conditions in their locality, the current realities in the Great River Watershed area, the challenges and obstacles to development, and the strengths or comparative advantages on which they could build their plans.

Identifying the current status of the watershed in each of the five areas of concern

Thinking ahead to political, economic, and social trends that will impact their area over the next 5 years; maybe national, regional and/or local trends

CURRENT REALITY

Major Trends Current Status

- Political
- Social
- Economic
- Environment
 - Community
 - Private Sector
 - Government

- Political
- Social
- Economic
- Environmental
 - National
 - Local/Regional

Challenges & Obstacles

- Issues
- Blocks to Progress
- "What's in our way to a better future"

Strengths & Advantages

- Foundation to build on
- What gives us confidence in the future

Considering specific and serious 'road blocks' to progress

Recognizing strengths in local government and communities; includes attributes, attitudes (both soft and hard) supportive of the future

Each of the five teams was asked to share with the other teams the insights that they had generated. The outputs generated from the dialogue have been reproduced in the following charts.

CURRENT STATUS

AGRICULTURE

- 80% of farmers are small or subsistence
- Large percentage of underutilized land
- Inconsistent rainfall
- Old age of farmers
- 30% arable lands

SANITATION

- Insufficient health education
- Prevalence of pit latrines
- Disorganized and improper garbage disposal
- Inadequate latrines in households 50% of households do not have any sanitary convenience

TOURISM

- More attractions offered than accommodations_with more plantation/farm tours, nature trails, rafting etc. while there are fewer hotels, guest houses, villas etc.
- Available accommodations are mostly occupied by North American tourists
- Increasing level of acceptance/appreciation for tourism in watershed communities
- Employment in tourism is mostly outside of the watershed communities

WATER MANAGEMENT

- Deforestation leads to erosion, causing siltation and high turbidity
- NWC as well as communities (Greater Montego Bay region) are highly dependent on water resources
- High levels of chemical, fecal and solid waste contamination
- Watershed extends into four parishes with approximately ninety-one hundred thousand residents

FORESTRY

- Insufficient plant/crop cover (indiscriminate land clearing of forests)
- Increased awareness of the benefits of forests
- Degradation of forests is causing a decline in wildlife and impacts negatively on coasts
- Legislation and enforcement of forestry laws now in place

MAJOR TRENDS AND CHANGES

AGRICULTURE

- Significant decline in traditional crops
- Increase in global competition
- Cooperative marketing
- Rural to urban drift
- Reduction in cattle rearing and increase in small livestock production

SANITATION

- Unregulated settlements
- Growing use of plastic bags to dispose of human fecal matter
- Increased use of VIDPs
- More sanitation and environmental consciousness

TOURISM

- Increased environmental awareness, cultural and heritage preservation in tourism globally/locally
- Increased demand for nature-based, heritage, rural, agro and community tourism
- Increase in promotion of domestic tourism
- Community ownership participation important
- Combination of agriculture and tourism on old estates predominant in this area

WATER MANAGEMENT

- Increase in environmental awareness and education
- Increased recreational use of river e.g. Tourism
- Increase in demand for domestic water and irrigation
- Increased use of synthetic/non-biodegradable products causing blockages and contamination

FORESTRY

- Slow reforestation
- Increase in public awareness of forestry issues
- Programmes from forestry department and other agencies helping to increase reforestation
- Inconsistency in rainfall patern
- Many alternative income generation opportunities in forestry

CHALLENGES AND OBSTACLES

AGRICULTURE

- Poor marketing strategies
- Land tenure and usage
- Poor infrastructure
- Praedial larceny
- High cost of financing
- Farmers resistance to change

SANITATION

- Lack of health education
- Only 30%?? have piped water
- Lack of financing/sanitation projects
- Terrain moderate to steep slopes
- Poor road conditions

TOURISM

- Poor infrastructure e.g. Roads
- Crime and violence impact on tourism product and marketing efforts
- Lack of incentives to facilitate tourism development and investment in watershed
- Insufficient linkages of tourism to other sectors e.g. Agriculture
- Need to preserve ecological biodiversity

WATER MANAGEMENT

- Inefficiencies in water harvesting and storage
- Establishing a specific watershed management authority to maximize potential of resources
- · Achieving inter-parish cooperation

FORESTRY

- Forestry legislation only deals with government owned lands
- Difficulty in changing behaviors
- Need for incentives
- Squatting residential/commercial/agricultural
- Inadequate boundary demarcation of forests
- Illegal agricultural activities

ASSETS AND ADVANTAGES

AGRICULTURE

- Existence of processing facilities
- Training and research institutions
- Strong technical support services
- Agro eco-tourism potential
- Proximity to ports air/sea

SANITATION

- Willingness to accept changes
- Availability of water
- Combined organizational support
- Support from local/international funding agencies

Good road network and proximity to urban centers

FORESTRY

Adequate forest personnel in watershed

Volumes/abundance of natural resources

Greater awareness of watershed protection

Private land owners participate in reforestation programmes

WATER MANAGEMENT

Trainable population

- Forestry creates employment/income generating opportunities
- Research and database being compiled

TOURISM

- Potential for eco-tourism and historical/heritage tourism
- Potential for domestic and community/rural tourism
- Presence of railway lines
- Human resources already trained and have worked in the tourism industry
- Five miles of coastal area within the watershed boundary

SESSION TWO: SHARED VISION WORKSHOP

The shared vision workshop offered the opportunity for participants to weave together a practical vision for the Great River Watershed. It was stressed that the vision to be generated would at the same time be forward-looking and practical. This would insure a realistic yet hope-filled vision for the Great River watershed area.

To guide the participants throughout the practical vision workshop, they were asked to keep in mind the focus question below. In addition, they were given a few helpful hints to inspire them further in their tasks.

Focus Question

"What do we want to see <u>in place</u> the next 5-10 years in the Great River Watershed area in the arena of improving and sustaining natural resources, especially watershed management practices"

Suggested areas for consideration are:

- New mechanisms or arrangements
- Community activities/programs
- Role of institutions/organizations
- Commercial/tourism
- Policies and practices
- Local/national govt. projects
- Inter-Government relations

'Visioning' Helpful Hints

- What do we want to create?
- Think visually What do you see?
- Hopes/dreams/aspirations of the community
- Practical What we can achieve? not an idealistic "wish list"
- Describe future outcomes/reality

Each participant was asked to write down elements and ideas of their vision for the Great River Watershed.

These ideas were then taken to six planning teams for brainstorming. Each team was asked to generate consensus on seven clear, concise vision ideas that were to be shared in the following plenary session. These ideas were then grouped into clusters of related issues, each cluster representing a pillar of the vision. The participants also worked towards consensus on how each pillar related to all the others and which of these pillars would serve as the keystone of their vision. Motivating phrases for each cluster of vision pillars were formulated, weaving together the newly crafted vision for the Great River Watershed.

GREAT RIVER WATERSHED SHARED PRACTICAL VISION FORWARD TO 2010

NEW AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGIES AND PRACTICES FOR SMALL FARMERS	WATERSHED RESIDENTS BENEFIT FROM CO-ORDINATED, INTEGRATED INSTITUTIONS	TOTAL WASTE MANAGEMENT FOR A BETTER QUALITY OF LIFE	TREES FOR LIFE PROTECTION, AND SUSTAINABILITY	ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION AND AWARENESS EVERYWHERE	A MODEL OF SUSTAINABLE HERITAGE AND ECO- TOURISM	COMBINED FOREIGN AND LOCAL MARKETING UNDER THE GRW BRAND	IMPROVED INFRASTRUCTURE AND USE OF ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY TECHNOLOGIES
New and improved farming practices	National Water Commission acting proactively to secure the natural resources that supply their product	Proper sanitary conveniences in every household	Plant trees for conservation and investment	Increased advocacy, autonomy and capacity of local community organizations	Small farmers holdings being attraction for tourism	More collective marketing initiatives e.g. Mafoota	Better road network to transport farm produce
Agro-processing – develop industries e.g. pineapple		Use of more environmentally friendly toilets (VIDP)	Reforestation of hillsides	Quality environmental education in all schools and communities	Reactivating the railway to enhance tourism	"Brand Great River" – increase awareness of watershed	Roadsides are landscaped, village pride enhanced
Good land management practices		Total waste management at every household	Significant decrease in deforestation in the upper watershed	Active environmental management committees in every community	Accommodation provided for tourists in watershed area	Produce according to market demand	Revitalize the railroad- develop activities along train corridor
50% of farmers trained/practice organic farming		95% of all households having access to sanitary facilities Seedlings to be given to communities for tree planting exercise	given to	ren to of watershed	Craft village in Catadupa	Montpelier Market as an attraction	Improved infrastructure – roads, water,
organio lanning			through audio/visual aids	Restoring of heritage sites	wastew	wastewater, electricity	
Diverse agricultural production which supports sound	Watershed based company implements cost effective input supply service	Better water quality (eco-systems)	More lands in forestry	More young people involved in agriculture	Knockalva agriculture school to be used as a tourist	Restoration of Great River Watershed to it's former glory	More use of solar energy
watershed management		Safer use of pesticides in watershed areas	Planting of trees in watershed areas as a priority		attraction – rewrite history for their benefit		

NEW AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGIES AND PRACTICES FOR SMALL FARMERS	WATERSHED RESIDENTS BENEFIT FROM CO-ORDINATED, INTEGRATED INSTITUTIONS	TOTAL WASTE MANAGEMENT FOR A BETTER QUALITY OF LIFE	TREES FOR LIFE PROTECTION, AND SUSTAINABILITY	ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION AND AWARENESS EVERYWHERE	A MODEL OF SUSTAINABLE HERITAGE AND ECO- TOURISM	COMBINED FOREIGN AND LOCAL MARKETING UNDER THE GRW BRAND	IMPROVED INFRASTRUCTURE AND USE OF ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY TECHNOLOGIES
50% decrease in use of agricultural chemicals matched by an increase in IPM practices		Greater community participation in implementing sanitary solution	Great reforestation (80%) of private land using orchard crops etc.		More prosperous community tourism in the watershed areas	Sustainable centralized agricultural market	
More young people in farming		Bacteriological and chemical contamination of water reduced by at least 80%	No trees to be cut down without permission from government agencies		Development of at least one museum that preserves local heritage e.g. museum of fruit garden		

SESSION THREE: STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS WORKSHOP

A review of the proceedings of the previous day was provided by the Facilitator. Participants were then led through the Strategic Directions Workshop. This session engaged the participants in identifying the key action strategies that would allow them to proactively respond to the challenges that the Great River Watershed faced and bring the communities closer to the realization of its newly crafted practical vision. Gary Forbes reminded the participants that change comes from "daring to be bold".

To focus the participants throughout the Strategic Directions Workshop, they were asked to keep in mind the question below. In addition, they were given a few helpful hints to inspire them further in their tasks.

Focus Question

"What are the specific, targeted, and priority actions that we need to take in the Great River Watershed communities in the next 2 years to strengthen watershed management practices, that will lead to improved environmental management and sustainable economic development?

Helpful Hints for Thinking 'Strategically'

Strategic Thinking

- Responding pro-actively to the changing situation.
- Identifying windows of opportunity, being in the right place at the right time.
- Thinking small wins focus on achievable results, build on success, momentum and incremental changes.
- Continuous improvement.
- Rule of 107/805 the number of days the Wright Brothers tried to fly the first airplane, and the number of days Thomas Edison returned to his laboratory to improve on the light bulb.
- Strategic thinking means persistence and learning from mistakes.

Helpful Hints

- Brainstorming generating lots of ideas
- Recommendations, suggesting, proposals
- New initiatives, campaigns, ventures, linkages, partnerships
- Programs, projects, events, mechanisms
- Activities to support and strengthen local capacities
- Use action verbs

Each participant was asked to write down 8-10 action ideas to be implemented in the next 2 years that would lead to the realization of the practical vision of the Great River Watershed. Then, in small planning teams, the participants were asked to consider all their ideas and identify their most daring, innovative and unique ones. These ideas were then clustered into groups of action ideas that responded to the same strategic objective. Each cluster of strategies was named with an action phrase that described the kind of action as well as the arena of the direction of the strategy.

It was then emphasized that the nine strategic directions agreed on would inform the R2RW Project's work plan for the next two years. Mr. Forbes then said that the subsequent work activities of the workshop would deal with generating action plans for the priority actions under each strategic direction, thus giving all the participants the chance to participate in the processes of working through these strategies in greater detail.

Participants volunteered to be part of a planning team that interested them in order to work on action plans. Each planning team then was asked to review all the strategy ideas under their assigned cluster and identify the top three priority actions within that cluster. This short-listing of priorities was to become the basis for developing action plans in the final work session for the planning process.

The following six pages illustrate the output from the strategic direction workshop.

Great River Watershed Stakeholder Workshop 2001

June 5th-6th,

1

INTRODUCE
TECHNOLOGIES AND
PRACTICES TO
REDUCE WATERSHED
DEGRADATION

2

IMPROPVE SANITATION AND WASTE MANAGEMENT PRACTICES 3

PROMOTE ORGANIC PRACTICES

4

INITIATE COMMUNITY TOURISM DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES 5

EXPAND SUSTAINABLE AGRO-FORESTRY PRACTICES 6

ENHANCE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

7

ESTABLISH
PARTNERSHIP FOR
THE SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT OF
THE GREAT RIVER
WATERSHED

8

IMPROVE COLLABORATIVE WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT 9

ORGANIZE MARKETING STRATEGIES FOR GREAT RIVER WATERSHED PRODUCTS

STRATEGY 1

Introduce technologies and practices to reduce watershed degradation

Action Points

- 1. Introducing technologies in land management
- 2. Introduce a public awareness programme

Other Action Points

- Introduction of a technology for more efficient production in the watershed area
- Identify forest boundaries
- Establish demonstration plots on land husbandry and innovative technologies
- Use lemon grass as a contour barrier source of income
- Construct contour barriers on planting sites above 30 degree slopes

STRATEGY 2

Improve sanitation and waste management practices

Priority Actions

- 1. Set up project for installation of VIDPs in upper watershed area
- 2. Continue sanitation assessment in the lower watershed
- 3. Implement recycling programmes of non-bio-degradable material in schools and communities e.g. Retrieve

Other Action Points

- Communities acquire drums and start garbage sorting for plastics in Schools and Retrieve
- Encourage the private sector and NGOs to participate in 'clean up days' and other environment projects
- Identify funding to improve sanitation in the upper watershed where applicable
- Enhance community participation in implementing sanitation solution
- Introduce low cost VIDPs that do not need clearing and can be converted to flush toilets
- · Undertake sanitation assessment of the Great river Watershed
- · Introduction of ventilated improved double pit latrines in the watershed area
- Implement recycling programmes of non-biodegradable material
- Set up projects for installation of VIDP toilets in each community

STRATEGY 3]
Promote organic practices	
	Priority Actions
	Integrated pest management plan in specific geographical areas Introduce new crops, resistant to pests and diseases Implement organic farming in selected areas

Other Action Points

- Introduce organic techniques for small livestock farming
- Initiate composting projects for households and farmers
- Implement an integrated pest management plan in specific geographical areas
- Organize and implement community composting project to solve problems of solid waste management – generate income
- Introduce resistant varieties of banana and plantain to small farmers
- Introduce new crops that are highly resistant to pests

STRATEGY 4

Initiate community tourism development projects and activities

Priority Actions

- Host workshops for the development and implementation of a tourism plan for the Great River Watershed
- 2. Develop an inventory of sites of natural and historic importance
- 3. Identify nature and heritage trails, and provide tour guide training

Other Priority Actions

- Restore two great houses: Knockalva and Hermitage to include fruit museums
- Collaboration between the people and the government in restoring the railway service
- Develop a craft village Catadupa
- Develop a nature trail/ preserve
- Host a workshop with TPDCo on the preparation of eco and heritage tours projects
- Develop a eco-tourism plan for the watershed areas
- Identify and mark sites of historic importance for eco-tourism
- Develop manual with scientific and historical information for training of tour guides

STRATEGY 5
Expand sustainable agro-forestry practices

Priority Actions

- Establish nursery at Montpelier to produce ornamental and timber seedlings
- 2. Provide seedlings to farmers on a cost -sharing basis
- 3. Encourage householders to plant trees

Other Actions Points

- Improve plant nursery of the Forestry Department
- Encourage private land owners to grow more fruit trees
- Implement fruit orchard and timber plantation in the watershed
- Establish a plant nursery within the watershed, enabling farmers to obtain planting material (fruits, vegetables, ornamentals)
- Design a campaign to promote our 'navel string' tradition within the 'tree for life programme
- Develop orchard crop nurseries in selected areas

STRATEGY 6

Enhance public awareness of environmental and watershed management practices

Priority Actions

- I. Develop a public education strategy for the Great River Watershed
- Promote adoption of sound environmental practices via use of incentives/competition
- 3. Provide accessible and relevant information through demonstrations and an information center

Other Action Points

- Promote educational programmes to sensitize residents on proper sanitation and the environment
- Undertake community programme on watershed management
- Establish 'best kept community' competitions based on sanitation, beautification, innovation and environmental awareness
- Encourage schools within the watershed to participate in the schools environment programme
- Include environmental education in Primary School's curriculum (make use of visual aids)
- Start poster /essay competition to highlight environmental issues
- Prepare information packages accessible to various groups farmers, entrepreneurs
- Establish demonstration/model units of appropriate technologies and cottage industries managed by individuals or community groups
- Develop a public education strategy in collaboration with key agencies (NEEC at NEPA)

STRATEGY 7

Establish partnership for the sustainable development of the Great River Watershed

Priority Actions

- 1. Establish Great River watershed management committee
- 2. Organize community-based action group
- 3. Establish junior rangers programme

Other Actions Points

- MOW & H/NWC work with MOH, PAHO and other agencies and the watershed management committee to improve sanitation
- Organize environmental groups, starting with two in each parish, also neighborhood environmental watch
- Start WMC and LMCs
- MOW/H and NWC start increase collaboration with communities /WMC to reduce watershed degradation
- Establish the local watershed advisory group as a strong focal point for interagency collaboration

STRATEGY 8

Improve collaborative water resources management

Priority Actions

- 1. Implement an ongoing fresh water quality/quantity monitoring programme at strategic points
- 2. Develop water quality base-line data
- Improve water harvesting, storage and consumption (starting at Seaford Town and Mafoota) while promoting new technologies

Other Actions Points

- Encourage citizens within the watershed to participate in river cleaning programmes
- Encourage and advance rain water harvesting, storage and management

STRATEGY 9

Organize marketing strategies for Great River Watershed products

Priority Actions

- Establish a centralized storage and distribution center for products and information
- 2. Sensitize producers to adopt modern technologies to produce and present quality products to withstand global competition
- 3. Building stronger relationships between producers, private and government sectors

Other Actions Points

- Start production and marketing groups
- Establish a centralized storage and distribution centre for agricultural products
- Expand pineapple production in the Cambridge/Ducketts, Ginger Hill areas
- Host a workshop with TPDCo for craft producers in Catadupa
- Establish a community marketing company utilizing the existing boxing plant
- Strengthening of the Mafoota Sandals project to include fresh fruits and other exotic vegetables
- Develop marketing strategies for key products

SESSION FOUR: ACTION PLANNING

Each planning team was asked to develop more detailed action plans for selected priority actions within their strategy cluster. These action plans included medium and short-term objectives, key activities, and the role and responsibilities of the various actors involved in the project. The teams were given the option to develop more than one action plan for their strategy cluster, where this was deemed both appropriate and necessary. The action plans generated by each planning team were presented to the participants in plenary. These have been reproduced in the following pages.

Strategic Direction No. 1

Introduce Technologies and Practices to Reduce Watershed Degradation

Priority Action

Introduce New Technologies in Land Management

Objective:

To reduce soil erosion and improve water quality

Key Activities:

- 1. Establish contour farming
- 2. Implement tree planting programmes
- 3. Introduction to organic farming and IPM techniques
- 4. Establish demonstration plots

Geographical Areas of Emphasis

- Ginger Hill, Ducketts
- Retrieve Stonehenge
- Orange Hill

Training and Technical Assistance

Roles and Responsibilities:

NGOs/CBOs:

· Implementation and monitoring

PS:

· Funding and sponsorships

CGA:

RADA – Technical services; training; monitoring; implementation

R2RW:

• Funding; technical assistance; implementation

Team members:

B. Taylor, R. Wilks, E. Sterling, H. Allen

Strategic Direction No. 2a

Improve Sanitation and Waste Management Practices

Priority Action

Set up VIDP Projects in Upper Watershed Areas

Objective:

To improve lifestyles which will enhance the environment and better health practices

Key Activities:

- 1. Identification of funds
- 2. Consult and educate householders
- 3. Identify existing resources
- 4. Construction of VIDPs
- 5. Monitoring and end of project report

Geographical Areas of Emphasis

- Retrieve
- Pisgah
- Chester Castle

Training and Technical Assistance

- Overhead projector
- Resource personnel
- Video machine

Roles and Responsibilities:

NGOs/CBOs:

Implementation of the project

PS:

Sponsorship

CGA:

• E.g. SDC – sensitization and mobilization

R2RW:

· Funding identification

Team members:

Deanna Hunter, Noel Scott, Linton Stewart, Stacy Ann Scott, Neville Williams Strategic Direction No. 2b

Improve Sanitation and Waste Management Practices

Priority Action

Continue Sanitation in the Lower Watershed Area

Objective:

To improve lifestyles which will enhance the environment and better health practices

Key Activities:	Roles and Responsibilities:		
Identify communities in the lower watershed	NGOs/CBOs:		
2. Consult and educate householders	Carry out assessment		
3. Needs assessment	DODW.		
4. Collection and processing of data	R2RW:		
	Funding for assessment		
	Team members:		
	Deanna Hunter, Noel Scott, Linton Stewart, Stacy Ann Scott, Neville Williams		

Strategic Direction No. 3

Promote Organic Practices

Priority Action

Integrated Pest Management Plan in Specific Areas

Objective:

Improved approaches for crop productivity and marketing through specially selected crops for niche markets

Key Activities:

- Training in collaboration with RADA and CARDI for farmers and extension officers
- 2. Demonstration plots on large and model farms
- 3. Rearing of parasitoids for distribution to farmers
- 4. Select crops for production e.g. lychee
- 5. Launch a waste pesticides disposal system

Geographical Areas of Emphasis

- Mafoota/Ginger Hill
- Retrieve Cambridge

Training and Technical Assistance

- Farmers training
- Extension support
- Educational material
- Equipment: computer, videos, tapes, slides

Roles and Responsibilities:

NGOs/CBOs:

Farmers Group Citizens Association; Jamaica Organic Growers

PS:

Sandals and other hotels; NICO

CGA:

 RADA; JAS; NEPA; CARDI; PCA; Technical and implementation agency; Ministry of Health; Montpelier Research Station

R2RW:

To act as facilitator and provide financial support

Team members:

Charles McKenzie, Sadie Dixon, Devon Ricketts, Eric Foster, Edward Richards, Keith Hibbert Strategic Direction No. 4a

Initiate Community Tourism Development Projects and Activities

Priority Action

Host Workshops for the Development and Implementation of a Tourism Plan for GRWA

Objective:

Expand the tourism potential within the Great River Watershed

Key Activities:

- 1.Host three workshops for northern, central, Southern – inviting key stakeholders from the communities in each section
- 2. Gather information from stakeholders on the tourism potential within their community
- 3. Prioritize the projects in each community
- 4. Identify source of funding

Geographical Areas of Emphasis

- Northern watershed area
- · Southern watershed area
- · Central watershed area

Training and Technical Assistance

Hosting and conducting workshop

Roles and Responsibilities:

NGOs/CBOs:

Provide information, assist with decision making.
 Implementation and monitor project; Seek funding

PS:

Provide information, assist with decision making.
 Implementation and monitor project; Seek funding

CGA:

 Provide incentives; ensure that standards are maintained and security is provided

R2RW:

Assist with coordinating, monitoring and evaluation

Team members:

Althea Johnson, Ivel Mclean, Charles Harvey

Strategic Direction No. 4b

Initiate Community Tourism Development Projects and Activities

Priority Action

Develop an Inventory of Sites of Natural and Historic Importance

Objective:

Expand the tourism potential within the Great River Watershed

Key Activities:

- 1. Develop categories of natural and heritage sites
- 2. Identify the sites through field research
- 3. Conduct historical and scientific research for each site
- 4. Place tourist information board at each heritage site
- 5. Develop a booklet on each site

Geographical Areas of Emphasis

- Montpellier Historic Site
- Roehampton Great House
- Croydon Nature Sites
- Blue Hole Nature Park
- Tulloch Castle (Sam Sharpe Site)
- Flagstaff (Maroon Rebellion)

Training and Technical Assistance

- Data gathering in the field
- Producing booklets and maps

Roles and Responsibilities:

NGOs/CBOs:

 Conduct field research; Provide folk information on the heritage of natural sites

PS:

 Provide assistance for conducting research; Produce booklets and trail maps

CGA:

• Technical assistance: TPDCo; NRCA; JNHT; SDC

R2RW:

 Assist with coordination; Assist with monitoring; Provide funding; Provide technical assistance

Team members:

Althea Johnson, Ivel Mclean, Charles Harvey

Strategic Direction No. 5a

Expand Sustainable Agro-forestry Practices

Priority Action

Establish Nursery at Montpelier to Produce Orchard, Ornamental and Timber Seedlings

Objective:

Expand sustainable agro-forestry practices

Key Activities:

- 1.Identify funding and land tenure
- 2. Identify viable seed sources and collect
- 3. Monitor relevant new technology

Geographical Areas of Emphasis

Montpellier

Training and Technical Assistance

- Forestry
- RA DA
- SDC
- HEART
- JAS

Roles and Responsibilities:

NGOs/CBOs:

 To identify sources of funding and foster public awareness

PS:

Establish plantations

CGA:

Forestry department; RADA, NEPA, NWC, SDC, JAS

R2RW:

Facilitating and coordinating

Team members:

Nerval Brown, Durval Grapine, Cecil Higgins, Cebert McFarlane

Strategic Direction No. 5b

Expand Sustainable Agro-forestry Practices

Priority Action

Provide Seedling to Farmers on a cost sharing basis

Objective:

Expand sustainable agro-forestry practices

Key Activities:

- 1. Sourcing subsidy for farmers
- 2. Demonstrate proper planting technique and after care
- 3. Lobbying for young farmers

Geographical Areas of Emphasis

Montpellier

Training and Technical Assistance

- Forestry
- RA DA
- SDC
- HEART
- JAS

Roles and Responsibilities:

NGOs/CBOs:

• Identify sources of funding and foster public awareness

PS:

Access planting materials

CGA:

• Forestry department; RADA; NWC; SDC; TAS

R2RW:

Monitor

Team members:

Nerval Brown, Durval Grapine, Cecil Higgins, Cebert McFarlane

Strategic Direction No. 6a

Enhance Public Awareness of Environmental Watershed Management Practices

Priority Action

Develop a Public Education Strategy

Objective:

To increase public awareness and ultimately encourage the implementation of environmental initiatives

Key Activities:

- 1. Assessment of current situation to determine:
- a. level of awareness
- b. critical areas of focus
- Design a programme that addresses /concentrates on the areas/issues identified in the assessment, including: definition of roles and identification of collaborative relationships
- 3. Test-run the programme in two pilot communities with ongoing monitoring and evaluation
- Based on lesson learned from pilot programme, revise, improve and extend programme to other areas
- Continuous monitoring and evaluation to facilitate improvements

Geographical Areas of Emphasis

- Great River community on river bank
- Leathy

Training and Technical Assistance

- Community trainers
- TA to do assessment, develop/shape curriculum suitably

Roles and Responsibilities:

NGOs/CBOs:

Active participation in all steps; encourage community involvement

PS:

 Voluntary sponsorship for educational materials, trainers, etc.

CGA:

 Through NEEC, materials and resources can be accessed; participate in all steps

R2RW:

Active in all steps

Team members:

Donna Yitshak, Matthew Hittle, Andrea Brown, Sasha Parke

Strategic Direction No. 6b

Enhance Public Awareness of Environmental and Watershed Management Practices

Priority Action

Promote Adoption of Sound Environmental Practices Via Use of Incentives such as Competitions

Objective:

Increasing environmental awareness by encouraging all community members to participate in competitions

Key Activities:

- Select/identify committee to organize, judge, etc.
- 2. Identify competition that is most appropriate
- Identify /design criteria, rules and conditions of competition
- Seek funding/sponsorship for communities and prizes
- 5. Promote competition to communities in watershed

Geographical Areas of Emphasis

Entire watershed

Training and Technical Assistance

- Posters
- · Technical assistance

Roles and Responsibilities:

NGOs/CBOs:

Enter competition

PS:

· Sponsor incentives

CGA:

Promotion of the competition

R2RW:

Coordination; funding

Team members:

Donna Yitshak, Matthew Hittle, Andrea Brown, Sasha Parke

Strategic Direction No. 7

Establish Partnership for the Sustainable Development of the Great River Watershed

Priority Action

Establish Great River Watershed Management Council

Objective:

To guide the development of the watershed

Key Activities:

- Identify and organize community-based action groups
- 2. Plan and develop programmes/activities, events/projects
- 3. Launch awareness campaigns/promotion
- 4. Provide training/monitoring and evaluation of programmes/activities/events

Geographical Areas of Emphasis

All areas within the watershed

Training and Technical Assistance

• Training in group formation

Roles and Responsibilities:

NGOs/CBOs:

Community awareness, sensitization and promotion

PS:

Provide financial support

CGA:

· Provide technical advice and training

R2RW:

• Project funding/monitoring/evaluation

Team members:

Leon Hopkins, Heather McFarlane, Michael Ebanks, Marvin Lawrence

Strategic
Direction
No. 8a

Improve Collaborative Water Resources Management

Priority Action

Develop Water Quality Baseline Data

Objective:

To assess and identify the present water quality conditions that exists

Key Activities:

- 1. Retrieve all necessary data from agencies
- 2. Critically assimilate and analyze the data
- 3. Identify lead agency/group to coordinate research
- Train local persons in technical data collection and research

Training and Technical Assistance

- Trend assessment/analysis
- Local persons-data (technical) collection

Roles and Responsibilities:

NGOs/CBOs:

· Identify location for storage of data

PS:

Three institutions for data: provide resources for collection of data

CGA:

Provide access to relevant data

R2RW:

Facilitate data collection by providing necessary resources

Team members:

Don Street, Winsome Townsend, Joseph Pennant

Strategic Direction No. 8b

Improve Collaborative Water Resources Management

Priority Action

Implement an Ongoing Water Quality Monitoring Programme

Objective:

To determine the impacts of actions in the watershed on water quality or quantity

Key Activities:

- Identify locations/points for monitoring ground and surface water quality and quantity
- Decide on critical water quality parameters to be measured
- 3. Determine physical structures and equipment to be put in place and costs
- 4. Develop schedule of activities for project implementation
- 5. Implement Project
- 6. Monitor and evaluate project

Geographical Areas of Emphasis

· Entire Watershed

Training and Technical Assistance

 Training of local stakeholders in water monitoring

Roles and Responsibilities:

NGOs/CBOs:

· Assist in collecting samples, reading gauges

PS:

Assisting in providing resources

CGA:

 Implement the project: Facilitate monitoring and assessment – WRA, NWC, NEPA, MOA

R2RW:

 Provide technical assistance and equipment; Assist with related public education; Monitor and evaluate project

Team members:

Don Street, Winsome Townsend, Joseph Pennant

Strategic		
Directi	on	
No. 9)	

Organize Marketing Strategies for Great River Watershed Products

Priority Action

Establish a Centralized Storage and Distribution Centre for Products and Information

Objective:

To improve marketing conditions

Key Activities:

- 1. Identify distribution points
- 2. Identify central points to undertake marketing
- 3. Identify funding
- 4. Develop mechanisms for corporation and collaboration
- 5. Identify methods of transportation

Geographical Areas of Emphasis

- Montpellier
- Seven Rivers
- Mafoota
- Knockalva
- Chester Castle
- Cambridge

Training and Technical Assistance

- JAS
- RADA
- NDFJ

Roles and Responsibilities:

NGOs/CBOs:

 Attract/obtain funding from donors; develop and implement public awareness activities; manage centre

PS:

Purchase products; Assist with public awareness activities; assist with funding

CGA:

Provide technical assistance; establish standards; monitor centre

R2RW:

Provide technical assistance; provide training; provide funding

Team members:

Harold Francis, Revinton Mosely

PRIORITIZATION AND PROJECT FOLLOW THROUGH

As a final consultative exercise for the Great River Watershed Stakeholder Workshop, Mr. Gary Forbes informed the participants that the top four priority actions from among those for which action plans had been developed would be chosen. The top priorities identified would guide the initial support that R2RW would be extending to Great River Watershed. The following R2RW priorities were outlined to the group:

R2RW Priority Setting Criteria 1. Meets R2RW Technical Mandate 2. Commonly felt problem to address 3. Potential for lasting impact 4. Building on existing initiatives 5. Ownership/leadership by communities and agencies 6. Potential for "quick start"

The various action plans generated by the planning teams were posted. Each action priority and strategy sought to operationalize were reviewed. Each participant was given two blue stickers, which were to be used to indicate a vote for the action priorities for immediate R2RW support.

The following Table shows the priority action areas and the number of votes received for each of the action areas.

Strategy Number	Action Area	Number of Votes Received
1	Introduce New Technologies in Land Management	4
2a	Set up VIDP Projects in Upper Watershed Areas	12
2b	Continue Sanitation in the Lower Watershed Area	6
3	Integrated Pest Management Plan in Specific Areas	4
4a	Host Workshops for the Development and Implementation of a Tourism Plan for GRWA	1
4b	Develop an Inventory of Sites of Natural and Historic Importance	2
5a	Establish Nursery at Montpelier to Produce Orchard, Ornamental and Timber Seedlings	8
5b	Provide Seedling to Farmers on a cost sharing basis	4
6a	Develop a Public Education Strategy	6
6b	Promote Adoption of Sound Environmental Practices Via Use of Incentives such as Competitions	3
7	Establish Great River Watershed Management Council	6
8a	Develop Water Quality Baseline Data	2
8b	Implement an Ongoing Water Quality Monitoring Program	2
9	Establish a Centralized Storage and Distribution Center for Products and	4

Information4

Following the selection of these priorities, it was agreed that a Great River Watershed Advisory Committee (GRWAC) would be established. An outline of the functions, procedures, and composition of the GRWAC was given to the participants. This was given as a guide for the next activity in which the participants were asked to identify individuals who could form a part of the GRWAC. These individuals would come under four categories namely: *State agencies, Civil Society, Private Sector,* and the *Community*.

Great River Watershed Advisory Committee (GRWAC)

Introduction

The Great River Watershed Advisory Committee will be made up of Government Agencies, Private Sector, NGOs, and CBOs active in the watershed. Awareness will be taken of the fact that the Great River falls under four parishes: Hanover, St. James, Westmoreland and St. Elizabeth.

Functions

The GRWAC will undertake the following functions:

- 1. Advise the R2RW technical team and NEPA on the implementation of activities in the GRW
- 2. Address the environmental issues /activities identified and prioritized by key stakeholders for R2RW project intervention
- 3. Review applications for GRW grants
- 4. Promote R2RW and other environmental activities
- Provide a forum for sharing lessons learned with other watersheds and to influence national policies
- 6. Monitor environmental activities undertaken in the GRW

Procedures

The following procedures are expected to guide the GRWAC:

- 1. Membership will be voluntary, and will be drawn from stakeholders active in the watershed
- 2. Participation will be based on individual representation individuals will make decisions on the basis of their expertise. It is however expected that these persons will share information with their respective organizations/groups
- 3. Meeting regularly as agreed whether monthly or quarterly
- 4. Making timely required decisions
- 5. Providing leadership
- 6. Monitoring the implementation of the R2RW project activities in the GRW
- 7. The R2RW project will provide secretarial support and training for the committee



Composition

The GRWAC should include:

State Agencies: NEPA, RADA, Forestry, SDC, NWC; Private Sector; Civil Society; Community

The following individuals/organizations were identified by the participants of the workshop as possible members for the GRWAC.

Composition of the GRWAC

State Agencies

RADA - Sadie Dixon Forestry - Durval Grapine SDC - Ivel McLean/Mr. Cole Ministry of Health - Mr. Hopkins NEPA - Barrington Taylor, Charles McKenzie

Civil Society

Sanitation Support Unit Marine Park JHTA Re-cycle for Life

Private Sector

Montpelier Citrus Groups - Nick Jones Sandals Resort - Donna Yitshak Cool Runnings

Community

Westmoreland - Cebert McFarlane St. James - Noel Scott Hanover - Stacey Ann Scott St. James/Hanover - Andrea Brown

SCHEDULE OF ATIVITIES

Day 1:	Tuesday June 5 th
9:00	Overview and Interactive Presentations
	Opening Welcome and Workshop Overview - Mr. Trevor Spence
	Welcome - Mrs. Winsome Townsend - NEPA
	Greetings - Ms. Sasha Parke - USAID
	Overview of Workshop - Mr. Gary Forbes - Workshop facilitator, R2RW
9:15	Overview of R2RW - Mr. Mark Nolan - Chief of Party, R2RW Current Situation in the GRW - Mr. George Wilson
10:15	Break
10:30	Lessons Learned in Watershed Management – Mr. Mark Nolan Targeted Appropriate Technologies – Mr. George Wilson
12:00	Lunch
1:00	Session One: Current Reality Dialogue
2:45	Break
3:00	Session Two: Shared Vision Workshop
4:30	Closing
Day 2:	Wednesday April 11 th
9:00	Session Three: Strategic Directions Workshop
10: 45	Break
11:20	Strategic Directions Workshop continued
12:00	Lunch
1:00	Session Four: Action Planning
2:30	Break
2:45	Prioritization Exercise

3:30 Formation of the Great River Watershed Advisory Commit	tee
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4:00 Closing

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